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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/671,731	09/29/2000	Thomas Grassl	JEK/Grassl	4440

7590

07/16/2004

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EXAMINER

GURSHMAN, GRIGORY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2132

6

DATE MAILED: 07/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/671,731

Applicant(s)

GRASSL ET AL.

Examiner

Grigory Gurshman

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 September 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 September 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because some elements are drawn by hand. New corrected drawings are required in this application. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsman outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

The claims are generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice. They appear to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and are replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors.

3. Where applicant acts as his or her own lexicographer to specifically define a term of a claim contrary to its ordinary meaning, the written description must clearly redefine the claim term and set forth the uncommon definition so as to put one reasonably skilled in the art on notice that the applicant intended to so redefine that claim term. *Process Control Corp. v. HydReclaim Corp.*, 190 F.3d 1350, 1357, 52 USPQ2d 1029, 1033 (Fed. Cir. 1999). The term "security data memory" in claims 1, 7, 8, 10, is used by the claims

to mean "secured data storage", while the accepted meaning is "protected data storage"
The term is indefinite because the specification does not clearly redefine the term.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pearce (U.S. Patent No.) in view of Sloan (GB 227107A).

6. Referring to the instant claims, Pearce discloses a security system using existing network and personal computers (see abstract). Pearce teaches the security system using a security detector associated with a personal computer attached to an existing data transmission network, where the personal computer is effective to detect security breaches and transmit an alarm even if the personal computer is not in its operating mode. When a security breach is detected by the security detector, the data transmission network is used to report the incident to a monitoring station for appropriate logging and action (see abstract). Pearce also teaches a sensor within the personal computer for transmitting an alarm through the data transmission network when the detected parameter of the security device exceeds the stored threshold even if the personal computer is in its non-operational state. The sensing means within the

personal computer including a secondary processor which is operational even when the personal computer is in its non-operational state, whereby an alarm is transmitted when the secondary processor detects that the output of the security device exceeds the stored threshold (see column 6, lines 15-25).

7. Referring to the independent claims 1 and 10, the limitation "sensors for detecting external action on the security processor or the security data memory" is met by the sensor (195 in Fig.2). The limitation "a sensor evaluation device" causing some action "when a threshold is overshoot on one of the sensors" is met by a sensor within the personal computer for transmitting an alarm through the data transmission network when the detected parameter of the security device exceeds the stored threshold (see column 6, lines 15-25). The limitation "recording device which permanently records the status data of the sensors in a memory" is met by a transmission network used to report the incident to a monitoring station for appropriate logging and action (see abstract).

8. Pearce, however, does not teach erasing the content of the security data memory when a threshold is overshoot. Referring to the instant claims, Sloan discloses an equipment for electronically storing data (see abstract). Sloan teaches that in order to make the stored data secure, the equipment comprises one or more sensors (a, b, c) which sense a predetermined characteristic of an authorized user and cause erasure of the stored data if this characteristic is absent e.g. for more than a predetermined time (see abstract). Sloan also teaches that in case of sensor a, a timer 12 causes erasure of data stored in a RAM 15 if the life function is below a threshold level for a preset time. In the case of sensors b and c, the timer 12 causes erasure of the data if successful

comparisons are not regularly performed. In the case of sensor c a predetermined number of unsuccessful comparisons causes erasure. Furthermore, a sensor 17 is sensitive to breaking- open of the equipment, to cause erasure of the data (see abstract and Fig.1).

9. Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use sensors for detecting external action on the security data memory of Pearce and erase data if the parameters are below the threshold as taught in Sloan. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use sensors for detecting external action on the security data memory and erase data if the parameters are below the threshold as taught in Sloan in order to make the stored data secured (see Sloan abstract).

10. Referring to claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 12, Pearce teaches that status data of the sensors is stored in memory (see Fig.3).

11. Referring to claims 7 and 16, it is well known in the art to use a backup battery coupled top the computer. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use the battery for maintaining the operation of the security sensors and detecting the attacks.

12. Referring to claims 11-13, Pearce teaches storing the status data of the sensors by the data recording device (see Fig.3). The status data is sent through I/O (unit 58) to EEPROM and to INST RAM and DATA RAM (units 59, 52 and 54 respectively).

Conclusion


13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

U.S. Patent No. 4.857.912 to Everett, Jr. et al.

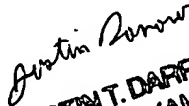
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Grigory Gurshman whose telephone number is (703) 306-2900. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 AM-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on (703) 305-1830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GG 

Grigory Gurshman
Examiner
Art Unit 2132


JUSTIN T. DARROW
PRIMARY EXAMINER